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Patriot Talon Vol. 43 Issue 4 (2011)

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SPORTS 6

Softball secures two wins on Sunday

Atharvavedah : atharva.
Veda; see weid- in App.
a•the•ism (a'the-iz'm)
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gods. 2. Godlessness;
< Gk. atheos, godless :

PULSE 3

Student belief series:
Atheism

CAMPUS 5

Officials announce
honor students

PATRIOTTALON

A Student-Run Newspaper Since 1976

www.patriottalon.com ■ March 29, 2011 ■ Vol. 43 ■ Issue 4 ■ The University of Texas at Tyler

Provost announces new CAS dean

Andy Taylor

Print Managing Editor

University administrators named Dr. Martin Slann of Pembroke, North Carolina as the new dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Slann said he is ready to take on the position and hopes to join the University two to three weeks before his official start date on July 1.

"I'm probably as excited as anyone could get," he said. "I think it's a wonderful opportunity."

Slann visited the campus in February when he introduced himself to faculty

and staff via a presentation and question-and-answer session.

During his speech, he promoted synergy with surrounding community colleges, acknowledgement of distinguished professors and an aggressive approach to securing outside funding.

He said the experience affirmed his desire to join the University.

"I was very impressed with the campus, faculty and staff," he said. "As far as I'm concerned, (I have) no doubts about it. I feel very grateful for the opportunity."

Slann currently serves as the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at The

University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

There, he leads 275 employees and manages a nearly \$20 million budget.

Slann said he has also enjoyed teaching at least one class per semester. In his application letter, he said discussions with his students provide a valuable source of information about the campus and surrounding community.

Associate dean and professor Jennifer McLoud-Mann, who served on the dean-



SLANN

search committee, helped to coordinate the evaluation of applicants.

"With any sort of hire you make at a university, they look at teaching, research and service," McLoud-Mann said. "With an administrative position, they look at administrative experience as well."

Following presentations from four finalists, search-committee members presented a recommendation of acceptable candidates to Provost Peter Fos, who made the final selection.

Fos acknowledged the work of Dr. Ken Wink in his announcement.

"I must thank Dr. Ken Wink for serving as interim dean," Fos said. "He has

sacrificed his efforts as department chair to step in and continue to move the college forward."

Vice Provost Donna Dickerson said Wink would return to his previous position, chairman of the department of social sciences, when Slann arrives this summer.

Dickerson also said Barbara Hart, who currently serves as interim chair of the department of social sciences, would return to her former position as director of criminal justice.

Fos announced last week his intention to leave the University and could not be reached for an additional comment.

»PULSE

Teachers, textbooks and tying the knot

Students balancing school with married life

Haley Bauman

Art and Entertainment Editor

Springtime brings students warm weather, midterms and, for a few, wedding bells. The life-changing decision to get married begins



TALON » PHOTOS COURTESY OF DARRELL DEITENBECK

Above: Narita International Airport passengers stand on the airport tarmac after a 9.0 magnitude earthquake hit off the coast of Japan on March 11. Passengers were taken outside due to the possible instability of the building infrastructure. **Below:** Graduate student Darrell Deitenbeck was in Tokyo, Japan when the earthquake hit.

University student in Tokyo when earthquake occurred

Editor's Note: A magnitude 9.0 earthquake hit off the coast of Japan on March 11, triggering a 23-foot tsunami, followed by more than 50 aftershocks. Darrell Deitenbeck, who received a bachelor's degree in business administration cum laude in 2010, is a graduate student at the University, working on his master's in business administration. Deitenbeck, a 2nd-class logistical specialist for the Navy Reserve, was in Japan when the earthquake hit. This is his account.

Darrell Deitenbeck
Contributing writer

It was just another day of traveling home from a great annual training mission in Taegu, South Korea, during Exercise Key Resolve 2011.

My day began with a bus ride from Camp Henry to Taegu International Airport followed by an airplane ride to Incheon Interna-

tional Airport in Incheon, South Korea, where I parted ways with other members of Commander Naval Forces Korea.

The 2 1/2-hour plane ride to Narita International Airport in Tokyo, Japan, was wholly uneventful. We even arrived 15 minutes early, which was exciting for me since this was my first time in Japan.

Once I had arrived, I noticed a novelty store where I went to find some trinkets for my family.

As I meandered through the isles attempting to find the perfect gifts, I started feeling like I was losing my footing.

I wondered if I just hadn't noticed the shop was on uneven ground with the rest of the airport, and I thought the large group of people running past the shop was on their way to catch a flight.

Then, I noticed the panicked looks on the other patrons' faces, and realized I was in an earthquake-prone country.

Calm store employees ushered customers out of the shop.

About 20 seconds later, as I talked with one

of the employees, her facial expression did a 180. She said this was no ordinary, everyday quake.

That's when the real shaking started, and everyone began to panic. People lunged for cover in doorways, under chairs and away from the windows.

I was standing in the terminal thoroughway next to the store when, all of a sudden, I heard a loud noise.

A 3-by-2-foot metal air vent ripped away from the wall about 20 feet above the floor and crashed with such force it bent upon impact. Luckily, no one had been underneath it.

As the shaking got worse, flakes of ceiling tile began to fall like snow. I feared the ceil-



JAPAN >> 7

Debate team competes at national tournaments

Kamren Thompson
Editor in chief

The University debate team traveled to Oregon to compete in the National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence and the National Parliamentary Debate Association Championship Tournament March 7 to March 19.

The junior team, comprised of Alex Warren, economics major, and Travis Smith, political science and speech communication double major, finished 9th in the country, losing to the champion team from the University of Oregon.

"I am very pleased," debate coach Charles Walts said. "We did very well as newcomers to the national circuit. We are a young squad, and, like any competitive program, you can't go from zero to national

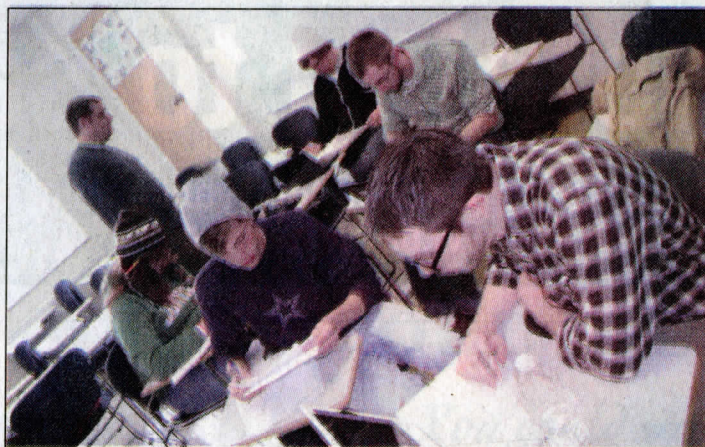
champions. You have to build toward it."

Walts said the team made several large steps toward their national championship goal.

"We went from a program that only a few people knew about to one that garners respect and attention in the course of a year; that is no minor accomplishment," he said.

Warren said he expected the team to improve this year, but the "suddenness" of it surprised him.

"Last year, we were ranked in the 50s for much of the year and couldn't manage much consistent success," he said. "This year, we set the all-time record for wins in a season for our event, advanced to out rounds in 16 of 17 tournaments and consis-



TALON >> KAMREN THOMPSON

The University debate team, seen here at Washburn University in Kansas in November, traveled to Oregon March 7 through March 19 to compete in two national parliamentary debate tournaments.

DEBATE >> 4

life-changing decision to get married begins to pique the interest of some students toward the end of their schooling career when they begin to look to their futures and whom they want to spend it with.

"The question of getting married while still in school came after we decided we had the means to get married," Kenny Sigler, a senior political science major, said. "That was the first thing we looked at because if we couldn't afford to get married, then we were going to wait."

Sigler said he met his fiancé, Beka Moore, a resident nursing student at Tyler Junior College, around October of 2009, and started dating her six months later.

"It was easily within a couple of months of dating that I knew she was the one," Sigler said.

On Sept. 5, 2010, Sigler asked Moore to marry him, and they began planning their summer wedding over a nine-month engagement.

"We are in a position where we can go to school and get married, and we didn't want to wait," Sigler said. "Most (engaged) people live together already and enjoy many other benefits of being married. For us, being married will be far from being engaged, and we couldn't be more ready and excited to make that change."

Sigler said planning the actual wedding has been a rush, "like the countdown to Christmas morning."

He said between working hard in classes and staying on top of everybody participating in the wedding, the actual planning has been a challenge, but he isn't worried about his marriage interfering with school.

"School will definitely take time away from other things I would rather be doing. That's for sure," Sigler said. "It will take a bit of discipline to make sure we dedicate enough time for our school work."

The same can be said for Tyler Junior College students, Josh Ellis and his fiancé Jessi Myers, who both see marriage as a step toward a great future with one another.

"It was quite simple to make the decision to get engaged," Ellis said. "We both knew that we loved each other and wanted to spend our lives together, but the decision came because we want our lives to start together

MARRIED >> 7

 www.patriottalon.com

Student music videos

>>Writing for Mass Media students recorded rap videos based on journalism and communication topics. Students can vote on which song is the best. The video with the most 'likes' wins.

Foam party update

>>Student Government Association members announced new details to the planned foam party. Changes include a lower price and rescheduled date.

Patriot Tennis

>>The Patriot tennis team remains undefeated in American Southwest Conference with a win over Louisiana College.

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Legislators ignoring real immigration culprit

The way
I see it
Andy Taylor



Illegal immigration often sets fire to hearts of concerned Texans. I am no exception.

Legislators from Arizona brought this issue to the forefront last summer with the introduction of Senate Bill 1070, which received vast media attention due to claims it would cause racial profiling.

Arizona's governor, Jan Brewer, ultimately stripped the legislation of its controversial elements on the day before the law was set to take affect.

The debate from this debacle re-

vealed a telling flaw in the way we view immigration policy.

Our legislators, especially at the state level, are not addressing the source of the problem: the companies that hire undocumented workers.

State Rep. Debbie Riddle recently sought to steer legislators toward addressing organizations rather than individuals with the introduction of House Bill 1202. Not surprisingly, Riddle missed the mark.

The proposed legislation would make the hiring of an unauthorized worker a state felony. But the bill includes one major loophole: the hiring of an undocumented worker for the purpose of obtaining labor for a single-family home.

If you grew up in Texas, you are probably aware of the phenomena she is excusing. When some homeowners need

to build a deck or repair their roof, they avoid high-priced contractors in favor of illegal day laborers, who offer their services for \$50 and a sack lunch.

Rep. Aaron Pena reportedly said this practice is commonly overlooked, and that without the exception a large portion of Texans would find themselves in prison.

Apparently, our legislators believe breaking the law is OK as long as many of their voters deem it acceptable.

How can we expect undocumented workers to adhere to our immigration policy when we send them a message like, "don't come here illegally unless you're good with lawns?"

This glaring contradiction removes any potential credibility from a bill that could have been a step in the right direction.

Far too often, lawmakers seek to curb immigration by criminalizing hard-working people whose greatest offense is taking advantage of a broken system in order to provide a better way of life for themselves and/or their families.

The real crime is the incentivizing of illegal activity from those who offer jobs to undocumented workers.

As long as we offer these loopholes, we will see an increased struggle for border security.

A 2007 survey from the Pew Research Center showed that 55 percent of Americans believe the most effective way to combat the issue of illegal immigration is to impose harsher penalties on the employers who hire undocumented workers.

Some legislators believe the best solution is a program called E-Verify,

which provides a database for employers to pre-qualify the citizenship of a potential employee.

But more than half of all unauthorized workers studied used a fraudulent identity to receive authorization, according to Westat, a national research organization.

Additionally, small-scale employers offering under-the-table wages do not typically, if ever, utilize E-Verify.

Yes, those are the same employers Riddle believes are exempt from the law.

The fact is, until we see a more comprehensive program to prevent the hiring of undocumented workers, we are going to be discussing this issue.

At least the topic will make a vote-grabbing talking point come election season.

Some 'errors' actually newspaper style

My nerdy
perspective
Kamren Thompson



I was checking newspaper e-mails the other day when I opened a message from a local newspaper editor complaining about a few errors in the *Patriot Talon*.

To be honest, the message got me a little down, but mostly I was amused because in the last sentence of the three-sentence message was a typo.

Are there errors in the paper? Of course, there are errors in the paper. There may be an error in this column. This is a student publication staffed with mostly full-time students who also have second jobs.

We are not perfect. We are here to learn. We don't intentionally make mistakes.

It seems quite a few people don't realize many of the "errors" they see are actually journalistic style.

It's called AP Style. The "AP" stands for Associated Press. We have a 419-page stylebook full of rules, such as the correct way to write "G-string" and the proper use of and differences in the words "assassin, killer and murderer."

I'm not kidding. G-string is in there.

Journalists have been developing this style

since the first multi-cellular organism picked up a note pad and pen. There is no clutter because, above all, we must save space.

Newspapers have a limited number of pages, and much of journalistic style hinges on that concept.

The first "AP Stylebook" came out in 1953, comprised of "thousands of suggestions and ideas, a stack of newspapers and a big dictionary," Tom Curley, AP president and chief executive officer, said in the "AP Stylebook" foreword.

AP Style dictates many things we write. For example, according to AP Style, it is "adviser" not "advisor."

It wasn't until the most recent edition of the book that "website" was changed from "Web site," despite the fact that most dictionaries said it should be "website."

We have our own abbreviation guide for states that differs from postal abbreviations.

The stylebook has a punctuation guide similar to "The Elements of Style" by E.B. White and William Strunk Jr., but it also differs quite a bit.

The most common example is when listing words, we never put a comma before "and."

It would be grammatically correct to hyphenate words beginning with "anti," but the stylebook lists 22 words beginning with "anti" that are not hyphenated like "antidepressant" and "antimony."

There is also a list of seven "anti" words

that are hyphenated in direct contradiction to the dictionary, including "anti-social," "anti-aircraft" and "anti-bias."

Another example is "tee shirt," which appears first in the dictionary, while the correct AP style is "T-shirt."

Sometimes there are grammatical errors or maybe words used incorrectly in quotations.

A lot of debate about grammatical errors in people's quotes exists. Some journalists believe it is acceptable to correct grammar in quotations, but some do not.

Therefore, whenever a person literally says a grammatical mistake, many journalists believe it is more ethical to transcribe the mistake than change the words.

Now, maybe I'm being a little defensive here, but I think my editors deserve a little R-E-S-P-E-C-T.

It's not such an easy thing to learn a new writing style with so many very specific rules. It's even more difficult to switch back to an English style for classes because journalistic style is obviously far superior.

But, even after learning that, if you still believe we make too many mistakes, let me know. I love comments, even if they are negative and have typos.

I would like to point out, however, if you're going to leave an angry, upset comment about all the factual mistakes and biased journalism in the newspaper, please provide a few examples and your name.

CAMPUSVOICE

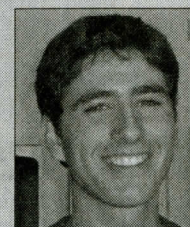
What do you think about nuclear energy since the earthquake in Japan?



BURNS

“The economic benefits of nuclear power outweigh the risk of an earthquake, considering the rarity of that happening.”

» Toni Burns
Freshman biology major



CUMPLIDO

“If there's no other way to make energy or use any natural resource that is not bad for the environment, then nuclear energy would be OK. We need to find other sources.”

» Edward Cumplido
Freshman finance major

Career milestone thrills journalism student

Meals. Munchies



Then, I ventured out by using them to open packages—not just ones containing food items but all sorts of things. Welding

shears

Turnips, collard and mustard greens, along with kale and cabbage, also can

Meals, Munchies & More

Hattie Kemp



Recently, I achieved a milestone in my life and new career as a journalist: I had my first article published in a newspaper other than the *Patriot Talon*.

On Feb. 23, The *Tyler Morning Telegraph* published my story about homemade tamales on the front page of their food section.

I cannot explain what a thrill it was to see my words in print, not to mention my byline. It was exactly the way I felt in the fall of 2009 when my first-ever article appeared in the *Patriot Talon*.

The following Wednesday, their editors published my article, "Shears Can Be Best Friend." Here is how it appeared:

I adore my kitchen shears. Frankly, I don't know how I survived without them for so long.

About 15 years ago, I purchased a Farberware knife-block set, composed of various types of knives. Included in the set was a pair of kitchen shears, a utensil I never owned and one which I wasn't sure how to use.

So, just as many first-timers do, I started clipping coupons with them.

open packages—not just ones containing food items, but all sorts of things. Wielding them as one would a magic sword, I was able to free items from that dreaded impenetrable plastic many manufacturers persist on using.

Eventually, I adopted more appropriate kitchen-related methods for my shears by watching cooking shows on the Food Network. From these experienced chefs, I learned how to use them for food preparation. Here are a few of the new techniques I've learned:

Instead of getting out a cutting board and a sharp knife to cut up herbs, now, I rely on my trusty shears to do the job. I snip the herbs right over the dish, which is less messy. Also, parsley, cilantro and chives are easier to cut with shears than a knife.

Kitchen shears perfectly slice and dice various vegetables with ease and precision. Celery, green onions and dried peppers are excellent examples of this method.

Some recipes call for leafy, green vegetables, such as spinach or basil, to be cut with a sharp knife into a chiffonade.

"Chiffon" means "rag" in French and refers to the ribbons, or cloth-like strips, resulting from this cooking technique.

To perform a chiffonade, stack several leaves, one on top of the other and roll the stack tightly together. Then, cut the cigar-like roll crosswise into ribbons using kitchen

shears. Turnips, collard and mustard greens, along with kale and cabbage, also can be cut into a chiffonade, using shears. Before using this technique, I recommend using the shears to cut out the ribs of the greens.

Kitchen shears are sharper than regular scissors and easier to maneuver than a knife. With these attributes, they are ideal for cutting chicken or simply cutting raw or cooked meat into small pieces.

This also works great for trimming fat off meat, such as steaks and pork chops, and cutting raw bacon into lardons.

"Lardon" is a French cooking term meaning thick-cut, fatty bacon that has been diced, blanched and fried. Lardons are used as a flavoring ingredient in a wide variety of cuisines, and as the base for many stews and sauces.

Using kitchen shears to cut the crusts off bread and pita bread into sections is fast and easy.

Other quick tasks are cutting cauliflower and broccoli into florets and mushrooms into slices.

Here is a tip for parents I wish I had known when my two daughters were toddlers: Cut your children's food—no matter what it is—into bite-sized pieces with kitchen shears.

Of all the utensils and gadgets I've collected over the last 37 years, my kitchen shears are my all-time favorite.



MCCALL

“They don't have the land to build solar panel fields or wind turbine fields, so nuclear energy is more efficient and also more cost beneficial. Nuclear energy produces a lot more energy than solar or wind at this time.”

»» Robert McCall
Junior criminal justice major



REED

“Alternative energy sources are great but are not as profitable or efficient as nuclear power. They are on an island. They can't expand any more. Therefore, nuclear energy is the way to go.”

»» Travis Reed
Senior civil engineering major

Have something to say?

Send a letter to the editor to ptaloneditor@yahoo.com
or comment online at www.patriottalon.com

Editor in Chief:
Kamren Thompson

Associate Editors:

Print Managing Editor: Andy Taylor
Web Managing Editor: Lea Rittenhouse
Sports: Jake Waddingham
Opinion: Hattie Kemp
A&E: Haley Bauman

Writers:

Tina Bausinger, Rachel Roeten,
Clay Ihlo, Jacob Bremer, Lynn Dark

Cartoonist:
Kelsey Wade

Ad Manager:
Colt Barber

Circulation Manager:
Nathan Follett

Adviser:
Vanessa Curry

PATRIOTTALON

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Letter Policy: All contributions in good taste will be edited for grammar, spelling, length (300 words maximum), libel, profanity and personal attacks. All letters must contain the author's name, address, telephone number, academic classification and home town.

Mission Statement: The *Patriot Talon* is designed to inform, entertain, educate and heighten awareness of students, faculty and administrators at the University of Texas at Tyler. Staff members will be responsible journalists by maintaining high ethical standards with fairness, accuracy and balance.

The *Patriot Talon* encourages and provides an avenue for free flow of student expressions and opinions. The newspaper will serve as a learning tool to help students gain experience in all aspects of the print media.

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Part 4 of a series

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Students address atheism in religiously conservative culture

EDITORS NOTE: This series presents different personal accounts, information and backgrounds on various students' religions and beliefs.

Lea Rittenhouse
Web Managing Editor

University student Derek Blain doesn't believe in a higher power. He considers himself an Atheist.

"It's not like I wake up, and I'm in some sort of deep existential depression where I'm like, 'Oh, geez, this day is meaningless because

not believe faith is needed to have morals.

"I think morals and values come from human nature, and they don't need to be dictated through faith," Blain said. "As I grew older, I found that I can be a moral and upstanding person without this sort of religion as a moral compass."

He said it's hard being an atheist in the South compared to Ohio where he previously lived.

"There's a very 'them-and-us' mentality toward faith, and that didn't necessarily scare me when I was younger," Blain said.

be rewarded for it," Hale said. "I am not so arrogant or narcissistic to think that God would notice my behaviors and say, 'Good job, my good and faithful servant' after I die."

Hale agrees it can be difficult to be an atheist in East Texas.

"There are certain situations where you could be publicly ostracized or you could be in danger of losing your job if it were discovered that you were an atheist," he said.

He believes it's easier to just come out and say he is an atheist, in his experience.

has whether or not they are religious."

The SSA is a national non-profit dedicated to organizing and supporting non-religious students on campuses around the country.

The University is not currently affiliated with the SSA.

Twenty-nine percent of 18 to 29 year olds are religiously unaffiliated, according to studies.

Galef said the non-religious student population has grown considerably in the last three to five years.

"At the beginning of the 2008 school year, we had 100 affiliates, and we now have 263; so in the last two years, we more than doubled," he said.

Any group of students can become affiliated with SSA by meeting affiliation standards and necessary recognition from its university.

Galef said atheism is simply the lack of belief in God or gods.

"They are people who are questioning their faith, people who have never been religious, people

who used to be religious but have rejected it," he said. "It really can encompass a lot of different people with a lot of different labels."

He said atheists gain their morality from an innate drive to care about other people and from discussion with other atheists.

"We do care about other people, and so we need to figure out how to make society as good as possible with the one life that we have," Galef said. "Some discussion, some reflection but, generally, just a motivation to help others."

TALON >> PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY KAMREN THOMPSON

there is no afterlife, and I have nothing to work for," Blain said. "Why would you need a point?"

Blain believes this existential thought makes him a better person because he doesn't strive for his individualistic needs after death.

"I wake up knowing that I should just try to be a better person and try and make the time that I have now as best as it can be," he said. "Reality is just perception; and once we die, I believe that you no longer perceive reality."

He said the definition of atheism is open to interpretation, but he takes it as the lack of belief in a higher power; "accepting completely that there is no deity."

Atheism is defined as the lack of belief in a deity, which implies that nothing exists but natural phenomena. There are no forces, phenomena or entities, which exist or transcend outside physical nature, according to the American Atheists organization.

About 12 percent of Americans consider themselves atheist or agnostic, according to American Religious Identification Study.

Blain said his lack of belief stems from lack of proof of a higher power, although he does not intend to belittle or attack faith by that idea.

"I've never really had much faith in a higher power to begin with growing up," he said.

Blain said he was involved partially in the Methodist church.

"In reality, me and my dad were more likely to be caught playing Halo on a Sunday morning than going to church, and the only time I really ever attended was on Wednesday," he said.

Blain believes the morals he was taught growing up would be considered Christian, but he does

He said he believes people fear having their faith questioned or opposed.

"Faith is somewhat of a stabilizer in a lot of peoples lives, and if you question that stability, people naturally get defensive," he said.

Blain said some people treat atheists as if they don't have any values or morals.

"Some people basically equate us to Satanists," he said.

Atheists are the least accepted group in the United States in comparison to homosexuals, immigrants, Jews and Muslims, according to a study at The University of Minnesota.

Although he finds himself in unwanted debates, he said he has met a lot of accepting people at the University.

Blain said he tries to be open-minded toward other beliefs and ways of thinking.

"I try and be tolerant," he said. "I try not to be the stereotypical aggressive (atheist)."

Daymon Hale, graduate student at The University of Texas Health and Science Center, considers himself an atheist and said he believes atheism is the "I have no comment" version of a religion.

Hale grew up attending a Bible church with his parents but has been an atheist for almost ten years.

"The more I learned about philosophy and other religions, the more I realized that they were all the same, that they weren't true," Blain said.

He said people don't need God to be good people, and being an atheist is about choosing to be good without supervision of a higher power.

"I'm not good to people because I think that when I die I'll

Hale is a part of The East Texas Freethinkers, a group that gathers with the purpose of meeting other local atheists and freethinkers to discuss beliefs and philosophies.

Dan Wilford attends the group regularly and said it's a place where attendees can be themselves.

"It's a place where we can let down our guard," Wilford said.

The group meets the first Thursday of every month and he said there isn't an agenda for the meeting.

"Sometimes we will watch a movie and discuss it; sometimes two or three people come with topics they want to talk about," he said.

In addition to the monthly meeting, the group meets in-between for informal fellowship.

"I was just really surprised that there was something like this in Tyler," Hale said. "I never expected that there would be another atheist in Tyler, much less a big group of them."

Wilford spent 40 years professing the Christian faith, but he said he now considers himself an atheist.

"I think there are atheists sitting in pews because it's more comfortable, and I think there's even a few that are behind pulpits," he said.

Jesse Galef, communications director for the Secular Student Alliance in Ohio, said it could be lonely to be an atheist student.

"A lot of religious students go to church every week or they have groups on campus for like-minded peers, but there hasn't been that kind of community for non-religious students until recently," Galef said. "The need for community is not a religious thing. It's a human need that everyone

Beta Alpha Psi

Mu Kappa Chapter

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“I think there are atheists sitting in pews because it's more comfortable, and I think there's even a few that are behind pulpits.”

» Dan Wilford, member of Freethinkers

DEBATE

from page 1

tently performed as one of the top-eight teams at each of those."

National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence

NPTE consists of the top-64 teams in the nation of a total of 965 teams, Walts said.

At the tournament, Warren and Smith won eight out of the 12 preliminary rounds but lost the first two elimination rounds.

"At NPTE, the first tournament, we were still a little rusty, and, ultimately, this was probably what cost us," Warren said. "The layoff from the last tournament in February and NPTE in March is actually fairly significant in terms of skill atrophying."

Warren said they spent much of the time researching debate topics instead of literally practicing debate rounds.

"The time trade-off and the total amount of research we had to do was prohibitive," he said. "In spite of that, we developed some good strategies and executed them fairly well in most rounds."

Warren said NPTE "forces success to occur on the margins" because all of the competing teams are good.

"You have to have that extra leg up

over the competition, and the smallest mistakes get magnified," he said. "We made a few too many small mistakes."

The freshmen team comprised of Addison Gribbin, an English major, and Mike Jones, an accounting major, finished as the top-freshmen team at the tournament.

"NPTE was a collection of the smartest college students in the nation, and I was proud just to be a part of it," Jones said. "As the only freshman-freshman team, we were congratulated by some of the most successful people in the debate community, which means so much to me."

Gribbin said she believes everyone on the team had a successful experience.

"Everyone was on their A game, and I got to learn a lot from seniors from other schools," she said. "I also was able to watch Alex and Travis debate and take some the elements that make them so successful and try to incorporate that into my rounds."

National Parliamentary Debate Association Tournament

At the NPDA tournament, 150 parliamentary-debate teams from all over the nation compete.

Warren and Smith won six out of eight

preliminary-debate rounds and won the first two elimination rounds against the University of Nebraska and Willamette University.

"By the second day of NPDA, we were in a fairly good rhythm," Warren said.

The win against Willamette University put Warren and Smith in octofinals against The University of Oregon team comprised of Hank Fields and Matt Gander.

"That win put us in octofinals against an Oregon team that had just won NPTE (that) would go on to win NPDA several hours later and had been in finals of nationals for three straight years," he said. "Even though we lost, we gave Oregon all they could handle, and Matt Gander pointed out that it was their hardest round of the season. I can live with that."

While the freshman team advanced in NPTE, they did not win the rounds necessary to continue at the NPDA tournament.

"In (NPDA) ... we were not as fortunate as we intended, but it would be an insult to be upset with the performance against the best parliamentary competition there is," Jones said. "I believe we made huge strides this season, being freshmen and doing as well as we did.

I couldn't be prouder for the team, my partner or myself."

Overall, Jones said the tournaments were a positive experience.

"They (the tournaments) taught me that the debate community is a unique, caring and loving collection of some intellectual and beautiful people," he said. "I learned a lot overall and saw how the best debaters in the nation play the game."

Next season

The team is excited about what this year's success means for the future.

"Alex and Travis will be back for their senior year and will be easily one of the top-five teams in the country next year," Walts said. "Addison and Mike will come back with more experience and will also be ready to step up and pose a double threat to teams. We have some growing and learning to do, but nothing that is

out of our reach."

Jones said the tournaments gave him incentive and set a bar for next year.

"This year, both teams set a precedence for UT Tyler," Jones said. "It starts here. In a couple years, the University is going to be one of the best-overall, parliamentary-debate programs in the nation."

Warren said he is optimistic about next year.

"The second half of this semester demonstrated that we are a threat every weekend, and that's the kind of momentum we can build on," he said. "The freshmen will make a similar jump next year, I suspect, and they're going to be a very good team. This is an activity where reputation and momentum matter, and this season has positioned us well in both of those areas for the next year."

Police Reports

The *Patriot Talon* collected the following information from public reports released by the University Police Department and the Tyler Police Department. All police reports obtained by the *Talon* are public records as defined under Texas Open Records law.

March 8

- Criminal Trespass Warning

Campus police notified a student that the University's office of judicial affairs issued a criminal trespass warning against them. University officials removed the warning pending a meeting with the individual.

March 9

- Overturned Vehicle

The University's Police Department responded to a report of an overturned vehicle at the corner of Patriot Dr. and University Blvd. The Tyler Police Department, the Tyler Fire Department and EMS also responded. Campus police assisted with traffic control on Patriot Dr.

March 11

- Assault

Campus police responded to an assault call at the University Health Clinic. The two parties involved signed refusal to prosecute forms.

- Stolen Property

A University Pines Apartments res-

ident reported an x-Box 360 game player, controller and five games stolen from her apartment.

March 13

- Public Intoxication

Police arrested a University student for Public Intoxication and transported the individual to the Smith County jail. Police found the student walking near the north entrance of the campus.

- Break-in

Campus police responded to a burglary complaint at University Pines Apartments. Police discovered damage to a window blind and screen. The resident reported about 45 DVD's and a flat iron as missing.

March 16

- Motor Vehicle Accident: Damage Only

A University student reported an accident which took place in the Ornelas Activity Center parking lot to campus police. The student reported damage to the left front fender of his Toyota Camry.

» News Briefs

University sponsors Fitness Round Up fair

University officials plan to put on a fair titled, Fitness Round Up, on April 9.

The fair will include activities for families, faculty, staff and students.

"We're trying to provide activities for everyone," Bob Hepler, director of recreational activities and cross-country coach, said.

The event's coordinators have scheduled three fitness events to take place: a disk-golf tournament, an ultimate Frisbee event and a 5k run and walk.

Coordinators also have included health and nutrition exhibitions, as well as blood pressure and fitness tests.

The University track and field and women's soccer and volleyball teams plan to sponsor games for kids.

"We are also trying to reach out to low income families in Tyler," Hepler said.

The event is free of charge, but attendees are encouraged to make a \$5 donation, which will be split between the American Cancer Society and the Jonathan Godi fund.

"We hope that a lot of the students

would want to participate if for no other reason than to support Jonathan," Hepler said.

The Fitness Round up has been held in the past for faculty and staff, but this is the first year the event is open to families in the community and students.

Hepler said he hopes to have attendance of 300 people or more.

Art colloquium extends time to 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Coordinators from a variety of organizations plan to present an art-themed colloquium titled "Pixels, Panels, and Prose: Pop-Culture in Animation & Beyond" on April 9. The event, originally scheduled for 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., is now scheduled to run until 7 p.m.

Students from colleges and universities will have the opportunity to discuss art forms with industry professionals.

"The emphasis on the 'colloquium' is to allow for dialogue between guest

speakers and the audience," organizer Michael Hale said.

Hale said attendees would be given a space to display academic papers, presentations and dialogue topics.

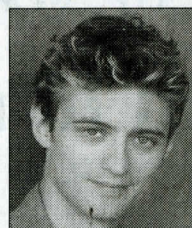
Guest speakers include Crispin Freeman, James Portnow, Dr. Marc Hairston and Jesse Dobson.

Freeman is a professional voice actor who plans to present his mythology performance titled "Giant Robots and Super Heroes." He is known for his work as Alucard from "Hellsing," Tsume from "Wolf's Rain" and Itachi from "Naruto."

Portnow, who received his master's degree from Carnegie Mellon Entertainment Technology Center, served as a designer for Activision's Call of Duty series before establishing his own company, Divide by Zero Games.

Dobson is a University graduate and contributor to the writing center.

Scheduled student speakers are Hale, Alyssa Phillips and Hayley Williams.



FREEMAN

JOIN THE CHANGE

ONE DAY WITHOUT SHOES--APRIL 5TH

Everyday thousands of children go without shoes and run the risk of infections and diseases. On Tuesday April 5th, across the nation, people will be going barefoot to get a better understanding of what the less fortunate have to endure and raise awareness of the TOMS mission.

STYLE YOUR SOLE--APRIL 12TH

This event lets you express yourself while helping children in need. Join us on Harvey Deck with a pair of blank TOMS and style your heart out.



WE DON'T TALK ABOUT OUR SHOES.

The TOMS Shoes Campus Club at UTT focuses on more than the TOMS One-For-One mission. We want to inspire change on campus that will lead to change off campus.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Find us on facebook
or email us at tomsshoescampusclub@gmail.com

Hungry?

Why wait for off-campus pizza delivery when you can order through the Met?



*Use this ad as a coupon for one FREE topping of your choice.

*Coupon must be presented to cashier during check out.

*Good between March 29 and April 11

- Prices start as low as \$5.99 for cheese.
- Additional toppings are \$1 each.
- Front desk delivery to O-Hall available.
- Use DB dollars for pizza pick-up orders.

Call the Met today to place your order.

903-565-5944

Officials announce honor students

University officials named 333 students to the President's Honor Roll and 286 to the Dean's List for the fall 2010 semester.

Officials revised the original lists released due to discrepancies.

In order to make the President's list, students must complete 12 or more credit hours with a grade point average of 4.0 in all courses.

In order to make the Dean's List, students must complete 12 credit hours with a GPA of 3.75 or above.

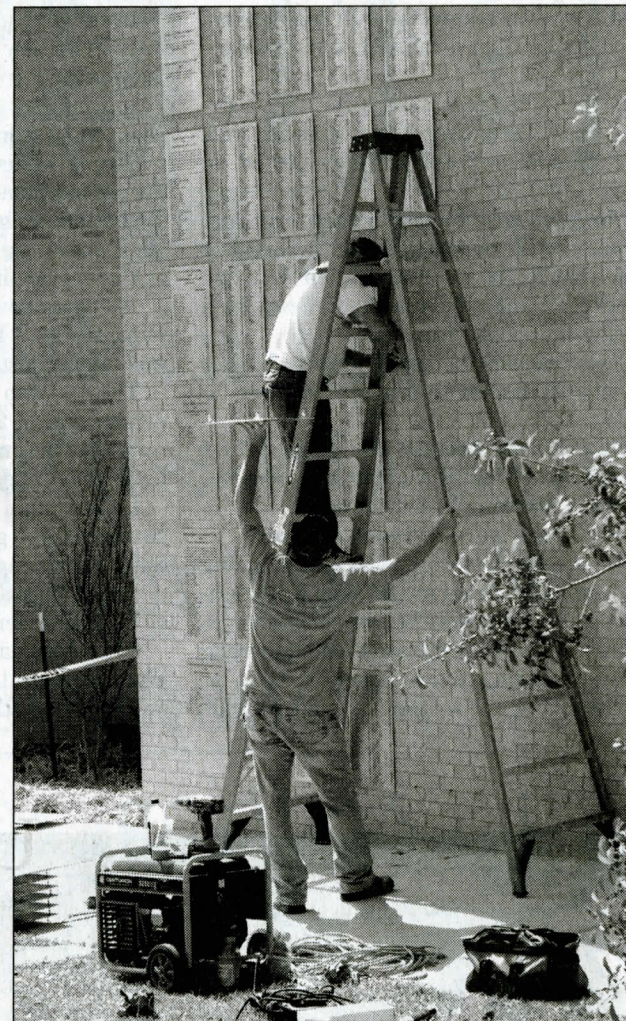
A total of 619 students made both lists, which accounts for almost 10 percent of University students.

President's Honor Roll: students listed by hometown are:

ABILENE – Kilian Thomas Regan.
AMARILLO – Erin Nichole Hughes.
ARLINGTON – Amanda Ray Weaver.
ARP – Amy Maria Herrell, Ashley Kaye Welsh and Shauna Rae Williams.
ATHENS – Lindsay Nicole McCowan, Denise Faye McDonald and Amanda Paige Zavadić.
AUSTIN – Crystal Deanna Batlin, Wesley Ross Harris, Alison Li Murdock, Jacklyn Nicole Reeves and Yannik Veit Rohrer.
BEAUMONT – Kelly Elizabeth Burns.
BEDFORD – Kaylee Marie Dean and Randall Wayne Roberts.
BIG SANDY – Jenna Leigh Rushing, Jennifer Ann Killingley and Wynn Alexander Worthern.
BONHAM – Annie Elizabeth Baker.
BULLARD – Michelle Brooke Balfay, Tiffany Marie Allison, Haley Nicole Carson, Emily Suzanne Knackstedt and Kory L. Prince.
CANTON – Jacob Michael Drew.
CARROLLTON – Andrew Joel Dunton and Taylor Nicole Warren.
CEDAR PARK – Jason Wayne Bennett.
CELINA – Cynthia Josephine Cronin.
CHANDLER – Jodi E. Padgett and Ryan Paige Reece.
COLLEGE STATION – Kevin Robert Wright.
COPPELL – Lauren Elizabeth Daily and Sydney N. Frazier.
CORSICANA – Griselda Martinez.
DAINGERFIELD – Frances Mae Ride-nour.
DALLAS – Alexander William Booth.
DENTON – Joseph Wells Hornisher.
DIANA – Alyssa Danielle Adkison.
EMORY – Vernon Paul Gilbert.
EUSTACE – Donnie Lynn Weaver.
FAIRVIEW – Kasey D. Widhalm.
FLINT – Carlin Brae Blanchard-Blackburn, Alexa Blake Fisher, Kevin Patrick Graham, Chukwudumebi Sandra Okafor, Diane K. Rader and Steven C. Waller.
FLOWER MOUND – Alicia Rene' Gackle.
FORT WORTH – Malenia Elizabeth B...

Plaques placed on front of University Center

Curtis Voorheese (background) and Shane Goode of Design Center Signs in Tyler placed plaques listings all University graduates since the University opened. University officials chose to arrange the plaques across the front of the University Center March 21-25.



TALON >> KAMREN THOMPSON

Luke T. Range, Charity Lynne Shipman, Elijah Paul Shipman, Enoch David Shipman, Amy Michelle Skipper, Kamren Michele Thompson, Angelina Michelle Toft and Bryan Craig Young.

LONGVIEW – Janet Arras, Sharon Hope Burnett, Elizabeth Anne Camp, Shamiya Tarell Domino, Macie Joy Grimm, Jessica Lynn Hatt, Chris W. Hopkins, Brit-tany Shermaine Jacobs, Grayson Ryan Lewis, Quindolynn Monique Loud, Shabrandon Trayousha Loud, Ianina S. Meibri, Lindsey Nicole Menchue, Sarah Pirtle, Tabi Gail Reynolds and David Mansell Williams.

LUFKIN – Elizabeth Raeann Weeks.
MABANK – Felicia Renee Burge and Jonathan A.E. McSwain.

MARSHALL – Mark Lee Dang and Ian James McKnight.

MESQUITE – Elizabeth Renee Allen and Amanda Lee Scott.

MINEOLA – Adrian Colby Sales.

MURCHISON – Karee Joy Parker.

NACOGDOCHES – Whitney Raye Wil-son.

NEEDVILLE – Justin Jacob Brown.

NEVADA – Lindsey Gayle Derbonne.

NEW LONDON – Rachel Ann King.

OVERTON – Autumn Elizabeth Boren, Chris Kyle Harman and Kerri Ann Park-er.

PALESTINE – Wesley Larviere Campos, Rachel Kaylyn Fitzgerald, Allison Anne Linam, Jonathan David Perry, Jaclyn Brooke Schitoskey and Jennilee Chris-tine Todd.

PARIS – James Paul Cochran, Saman-tha Nelia Maynard, Kelli Lynne Noland and Jordan Michael Sims.

PITTSBURG – Kaylan L. Hunt.

PLANO – Brittany Leigh McKissack and Stephanie She.

QUITMAN – Carrie Christine Tanton.

RENO – Callie Renee Nixon.

RICHMOND – Kyle Lee Clawson and Jo-seph Lee Sampson.

ROWLETT – Ashley Rachel Jayakaran.

SAN ANTONIO – Sarah C. Hepler.

SANGER – Preston Nicholas Spuza.

SHELBYVILLE – Heather R. Swearen-gen.

SILSBEE – Brittani Cierra Keith.

SPRING – Grant Edward Marcantel and Shelby Marie McDonough.

SULPHUR SPRINGS – Callie Nicole Den-nis and Rodrigo Larios.

THE WOODLANDS – Parker Andrew Price.

TYLER – Nathan Allen Adams, Jesse-nia Carolina Aguilar, Emily Elissa Allen, Hadia Amjad, Ashley Christina Barr, Shamika S. Bell, John N. Berger, Chris-topher Robert Bischoff, Matthew David Black, Heather Nicole Blaschke, John Patrick Bradley, Brandon Lee Brattlof, Sara F. Bruce, Katelyn Michele Bry-

land, Sylvia Lynne Moore and Claudia Berenice Viramontes.

LONGVIEW – Brianne Jeanette Anders, Whitney Nicole Andrews, Alicia M. Con-way, Randi Michele Dennerlein, James Patrick Gee, Brittany Rebecca Hamby, Lauren Elizabeth Holloway, Michelle Lynn Jones, Jeremy Jennings Key, Kristah Cheree Kitchen, Charlene Joy Lee, Emily Ann Mach, Brianna F. Moore, Jonathan Earl Nelson, Cody Mills Patterson, Melanie A. Rieger, Sonja A. Sanders and Lindsey Noelle Schepis.

LOVELADY – Kyle D. Bellis.
LUFKIN – Katherine Marie Philpott and Christopher Aaron Tapia.

LUMBERTON – Laura Ann Chapman.

MABANK – Kirstin Ashli Mesa.

MAGNOLIA – Carly Marie Bammel.

MARIETTA – Christopher Allen Wall.

MARSHALL – Austin Harris Delk.

MCKINNEY – Daniel Leiner.

MEXIA – Taryn Ashley Leanderdele

Crosby, Keri Nichole Crouch, John Wil-liam Cushing, Ursula P. Diaz Lopez, Cyd-nee Victoria Elrod, Victoria Kay Epper-son, Joanna Epperson, Joanna Esparza, Travis Clark Evans, Jacob Wesley Fast, David Michael Flanders, Samuel Chris-tian Flanders, Christine Taylor Ford, Steven Michael Franks, Bethany Ann Gamez, Amber Maree Garland, Joanna Kathryn Gifford, Griselda Guerrero, Taryn Alyssa Gwaltney, Andrea Den-iese Horton, Heather Rachelle Howard, Rachel Elaine Howerton, Cassie Erin Hudson, Na'Keisha D. Jones, Nicholas Cody Jones, Kyle Doyle Joseph, Aaron Wayne Katchmarik, Maribel R. Kennedy, Christian Servin Killmeyer, Michael Pat-rick Leatherwood, Ryann Leigh Levrier, Ryan L. Luke, Anne R. Maness, Amanda D. Margraves, Olivia Rachelle Martin, Scott Austin Martin, Amie Nicole Mar-tinez, Alexandra C. Massing, Joseph Bradley McCullough, Bridget I. Ma-

BEDFORD – Ashley Elizabeth Stewart.
BEN WHEELER – Alan Clark Elerson and Steven Charles Spence.

BIG SANDY – David Albert Bruhn, Cassie Ann Case, Chastadee Janette Hill, Samuel Nathan Stevens and Chris-tine Marian Wilson.

BROWNSBORO – Lisa Kay San Miguel and Johnathan Lane Wilson.

BULLARD – Kanda Kae Carter, Lauren Alyx Grabski, Taylor T. Hodges, Emmy-lou Hubbard, Jordan Kade Rosenstein and Chad Edward Sherman.

CANTON – Jared J. Heddin.

CARROLLTON – Claire Megan Smith.

CHANDLER – Zachary Austin Carnes, Anjelina M. Howard and Amanda Kay Wellman.

COLLEGE STATION – Lauren Nicole Thomas.

CONCORD – Ceanne Elizabeth Spence.

CONROE – Claire C. Logue.

COOPER – Emily Elizabeth Bellard

Swoop's Official SCORE BOARD

BASEBALL

March 22 at Home
UT Tyler 27
Jarvis Christian 2

March 25 at Richardson, Tx.
UT Dallas 7
UT Tyler 0

March 26 at Richardson, Tx.
UT Tyler 7, 9
UT Dallas 1, 10

April 1 at Home
UT Tyler vs. LeTourneau
6 p.m.

April 2 at Home
UT Tyler vs. LeTourneau
1 p.m. & 4 p.m.

April 5 at Home
UT Tyler vs. Austin College
3 p.m.

April 8 at Pineville, La.
UT Tyler vs. Louisiana College
6 p.m.

April 9 at Pineville, La.
UT Tyler vs. Louisiana College
Noon & 3 p.m.

April 15 at Home
UT Tyler vs. Mississippi College
6 p.m.

April 16 at Home
UT Tyler vs. Mississippi College
1 p.m. & 4 p.m.

SOFTBALL

March 19 at Richardson, Tx.
UT Tyler 7, 13
UT Dallas 3, 5

March 22 at Home
UT Tyler 5, 8
Louisiana College 9, 5

March 27 at Home
UT Tyler 8, 9
Chapman 7, 0

March 30 at Clinton, Miss.
UT Tyler vs. Mississippi College
1 p.m. & 3 p.m.

March 12 at Home
UT Tyler 8, 9

Patriot winning streak sizzles out at UTD

Jake Waddingham
Sports Editor

The University's baseball team earned its 22-straight win after pounding Jarvis Christian 27-2 at UT Ballpark on Tuesday night. The victory helped the team secure third in the national rankings put out by D3baseball.com, tying a school record.

In the bottom of the first, the Patriots put a six-spot on the scoreboard after Justin Juneau, Nick Clifton, T.J. Martin and Jake Ashley picked up RBIs.

Jarvis Christian would not find their way onto the scoreboard until the sixth inning. A throwing error allowed the Bulldog's to score their first run. Jeremy Lockett found a hole in the defense for a single, scoring the second run.

Brian Shore earned the win from the hill for the University. He fanned two batters in three innings.

Offensively, Juneau finished the game 4-for-4 with six RBIs, and Martin was perfect from the plate, driving in four runs in four at bats.

The 22-win streak led all Division III teams.

On Friday, the Patriots were on the road, taking on The University of Texas at Dallas in an American Southwest matchup. For the first time this season, the Patriots found themselves on the wrong side of a shutout, falling to the Comets, 7-0.

"We ran into a hot pitcher that kept us off stride

and had a nice array of pitches," head baseball coach Paul Wyczawski said. "Sometimes, you just have to tip your hat to a guy that had a good day."

College baseball forces teams to quickly put the past behind them. The University continued the double header with UTD on Saturday.

In the first game, the University bounced back with 7-1 victory over the Comets.

"Our guys are resilient," Wyczawski said. "They were confident in their abilities and ready to get back on the field."

Strong winds made pitching location critical in the second game. Holding a slight lead going into the bottom of the eighth inning, a couple of pitches hung above the belt, and Comet batters took advantage, grabbing a 9-8 lead.

"It came down to who had the last chance to swing the bat," Wyczawski said. "We swung the bat well all day, just ran out of time."

The first two losses of the season leave the University with a 23-2 record overall. They are currently 7-2 in conference play, sitting second behind Louisiana College (18-8, 5-1).

LeTourneau University comes to town on Friday for a three game series. The Patriots have four critical series against teams from the ASC.

Coach Wyczawski said the best part is three out of those four series are at home.

"The best part is we control our own destiny," Wyczawski said. "We need to keep doing what we do, just be a little better at it."



TALON >> JAKE WADDINGHAM

Hayden Chick ropes a single as Nick Clifton prepares to advance in the bottom of the third inning at UT Ballpark against Jarvis Christian. The Patriots extended their win streak to 22-straight after the 27-2 blowout.

>> Golf



Teams look to 'remain consistent'

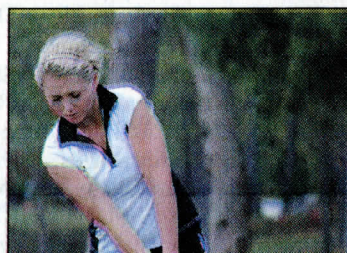
Jake Waddingham
Sports Editor

Men's and women's head golf coach King Campbell said both teams are peaking at the right time of the year for a strong finish to the 2011 season.

The men won the Schreiner

University, Schreiner and the University. Campbell said other teams like Texas Lutheran have also improved with the help of a couple fifth-year seniors.

In the national rankings, the men slipped two spots from last week settling into 12th



Softball jumps to 14 after split with Louisiana College

Rachael Roeten
Staff Writer

The UT Tyler softball team split for the first time this season in the American Southwest Conference Tuesday in a doubleheader against No. 5 ranked Louisiana College at UT Ballpark.

The Patriots lose the first game (8-5) after falling behind early in the second inning. The Lady Cats take the lead and held it for the rest of the game with four runs off three hits.

M'Lynn Tillery relieved Katelyn Thomason in the fourth inning, coming in with bases loaded. The Patriot defense provided a double play up the middle, ending the inning and the LC rally.

In the bottom of the fourth, Brittney Batten got the Patri-

two-run homer. The Patriots also left the bases loaded at the end of first.

In the bottom of the third, Brittanni Hanna doubled, scoring Cronin and Jessie Bross to help the Patriots take their first lead of the game, 6-5

"It was a great effort to bounce back in the second game," Reed said.

The Patriots went on to score in four other innings. Wyly lead the team, going 1-for-2 at the plate with 3 RBIs.

Sunday morning the Patriots took on Chapman University in a non-conference doubleheader.

Chapman's Courtney James gave the University a scare in the first game, tying the Patriots 7-7 in the top of the seventh with a two-run home run.

Kristen Anderson stole the

UT Tyler 8, 9
Ozarks 0, 1

March 19 at Richardson, Tx.
UT Tyler vs. UT Dallas
1 p.m. & 3 p.m.

March 22 at Home
UT Tyler vs. Louisiana College
4 p.m. & 6 p.m.

March 27 at Home
UT Tyler vs. Chapman
8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

March 30 at Clinton, Miss
UT Tyler vs. Mississippi College
1 p.m. & 3 p.m.

April 2 at Home
UT Tyler vs. East Texas Baptist
1 p.m. & 3 p.m.

April 5 at Home
UT Tyler vs. UT Dallas
5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

TRACK & FIELD

April 2 at Nacogdoches, Tx.
UT Tyler at Stephen F. Austin
Quad Meet

GOLF

March 17 at Jekyll Island, Ga.
Women — 4th

March 28 at Dallas, Tx.
Men at UT Dallas Invit.
8 a.m.

April 4 at Round Rock, Tx.
Men/Women at Southwestern
Invit., 8 a.m.

TENNIS

March 15 at Pomona, Calif.
Men — 0-9
Women —

March 26 at LeTourneau
Men — 9-0
Women —

March 26 at Home
Men — 9-0
Women —

April 1 at Belton, Tx.
UT Tyler vs. Mary Hardin-
Baylor, Noon

April 2 at San Antonio, Tx.
UT Tyler vs. Trinity
10 a.m.

The men won the Schreiner
Shootout in a combined score of
292 in the first round, finishing
with a 599.

Austin Quentin led the squad
with a 148, finishing in a tie for
third in the individual stand-
ings.

"We played really well at
Schreiner, but not so well during
the first round in Mississippi,"
Campbell said. "The guys start-
ed to pick it up during the sec-
ond day, but we got rained out."

Also scoring for the Patriots
was Cory Pieper with 148. Jacob
Walsh finished 11th with a 151
and Joey Rippel and Nick Hold-
itch tied for 17th.

Campbell said the end of the
regular season is approaching
fast. The men travel to Dallas
for the University of Texas at
Dallas Invitational. The follow-
ing weekend the men and wom-
en travel to Round Rock for the
Southwestern Invitational.

The chase for the American
Southwest Conference title is
shaping up to be a three-team
race among Mary Hardin-Bay-

men slipped two spots from last
week, settling into 12th.

The women also had a strong
performance at Schreiner, fin-
ishing second. The team scored
a 767 (339-337) and was only five
strokes behind Trinity Univer-
sity.

Danica Weddle tied for second
place in the individual standings
to lead the Patriots. Callie Rice
and Jennifer King also finished
in the top 10, placing sixth and
tenth, respectively.

At the Jekyll Island Colle-
giate Invitational, the women's
squad had a strong performance
on third day, finishing fourth in
the field of 21 teams.

The Patriots were sixth after
the second day of competition,
but strong performances by Ka-
tie Harris and Weddle helped
the team break into the top five.
Harris scored a 239 (80-80-79)
and finished tenth as an indi-
vidual.

"The course was much wid-
er and had a lot more grass
growth," Harris said.

The women's team is cur-
rently ranked 15th in the nation,



TALON >> JAKE WADDINGHAM

**Top: Jenny King and Jordan Wood-
ruff take a few full swings on the
driving range at Hollytree Country
Club during practice on Thursday.**

**Above: Ceseli Slozacek works on
her short game. The Patriot wom-
en are currently ranked 15th in the
nation after a fourth place finish
at the Jekyll Island Collegiate In-
vitational.**

jumping up one spot from the
previous week.

"We need to remain consis-
tent more than anything and
stay confident in our shots,"
Harris said.

The madness and magic of March

Jacob Bremer
Staff Writer

COLUMN

While baseball season begins
to come into full swing and foot-
ball starts their spring training,
(well, maybe not for the pros)
one sport reaches its most piv-
otal time of the year and puts all
other sports on the back burner:
college basketball.

You hear the term "March
Madness", but what does that
really mean?

The iconic phrase can mean
a lot of different things to a lot
of different people, but it most
commonly is used to indicate how
the national college basketball
championship tournament can
be a crazy story with underdogs,
upsets and twists, all down the
road to the Final Four. However,
this isn't the only way to explain
"March Madness."

It was the 2006 George Mason
team that beat perennial power-
houses Michigan State and Uni-
versity of North Carolina, took

down Wichita State, and then
shocked the world by getting
past top-ranked Connecticut
Huskies.

It was sophomore Stephen
Curry, leading his Davidson Col-
lege Wildcats, a school of not
even 2,000 students, to the sweet
sixteen in 2008.

Most recently, it was Butler's
courageous performance and the
"shot that fell short" against
powerhouse Duke in the national
championship last year.

As summer quickly approach-
es, I have found, like many of my
academic peers, sometimes it is a
struggle to focus, as I did when
the spring semester started.

One way I discovered to cure
this common epidemic is by get-
ting involved in something. It
makes the time seem to go by
much more quickly.

Our society has taken upon a
role in which sports have become
a dominating aspect of our cul-

ture, and with sports, come tri-
umph and agony, which makes it
possible to make a personal con-
nection with the teams.

This month can have me jump-
ing out of my seat with my arms
in the air in excitement, and the
next moment, have my face bur-
ied into a pillow with despair.

March is almost over, and the
tournament is quickly coming to
a close. It has been a wild ride
this year with many teams up-
setting the status quo and shock-
ing the world.

So even if you're not a loyal
fan of college basketball or even
don't really watch sports, and if
you have some free time, maybe
you should turn on a game. Don't
be afraid to let it engulf you.

Root for an underdog. Learn
a team's story and fall in love
with it. Raise your hands in vic-
tory when they triumph and stay
faithful when the future does not
look bright for them.

It might just be the madness
or magic you need in your life.

In the bottom of the fourth,
Brittney Batten got the Patri-
ots on the board with a two-run
home run scoring Joey Cronin.

"One game can make a dif-
ference," Patriot softball head
coach Mike Reed said. "It is 24
opportunities to get wins, and we
are just trying to get as many as
we can right now."

The Lady Cats finished their
scoring with Jaeger's two-run
homer. The Patriots answer back
with their own 2-run homer from
Batten in the bottom of the sixth
to conclude UT's scoring.

Batten led the Patriots in the
first game going 2-for-3 with 4
RBIs. The Lady Cats outhit the
Patriots 14 to 5 to take the win.

In the second game, the Pa-
triotics were out hit 11-7 but man-
aged to earn the victory, 9-5.

The Lady Cats took the first
lead again with three runs off
four hits in the top of the first.
The Patriots closed the top of the
inning leaving bases loaded stop-
ping a potential rally.

The Patriots followed up
with scoring of their own, plat-
ing Cronin with Whitney Wyly's

Kristen Anderson stole the
victory, scoring from third on a
wild pitch.

Due to Chapman's flight ar-
rangements, the second game
was played drop-dead style, five
innings or one hour, whichever
came first.

The game does count as a win
for the Patriots because five in-
nings were completed.

The University improved to
21-3 overall and a 7-1 record
in the ASC. They remain tied
with East Texas Baptist Univer-
sity for the top spot in the ASC
East.

The ASC West also has a tie
for first: Mary Hardin-Baylor
University and Hardin Simmons
are deadlocked at 8-0.

In the national rankings, the
Patriots jumped two spots to 14.
Louisiana College stayed put in
the rankings at fifth.

The Patriots are on the road
Wednesday, taking on Missis-
sippi College. The team returns
home on April 2 for another ASC
series with East Texas Baptist
University.

Track competes at Texas A&M Commerce



TALON >> JAKE WADDINGHAM

**Kealey Gaffney sails over the hurdle in the women's 100 meter
hurdles Saturday at the Texas A&M Commerce Invitational. Gaffney
finished second overall in 16.25 seconds. The see all of the track
results, go to www.patriottalon.com.**

MARRIED

from page 1

sooner than later.”

Ellis asked Myers to marry him on March 6 and began planning for their wedding next summer.

“In my opinion, school will actually come a little easier for me,” Ellis said. “Instead of being on the road traveling and working out a balance time from seeing my fiancé and studying for school, now I can go straight home knowing that she will be there for me.”

While students plan accordingly for both their weddings and futures, many may be surprised by the reality of life.

“The hardest thing about getting married any time is the first year of marriage,” Joe Osteen, director of the University Baptist Student Ministry, said. “The biggest challenge is the lack of life experience. You go through a period of maturing from your freshman year to your senior year and, if you’re married, then you’re going through that maturation as well as marriage expectations.”

The pressures of engagement and marriage go beyond financial to knowing really when you want to get married, said Tony Puckett, Smith County Education Coordi-

nator for VOW, a healthy-marriage education program.

“I think time considerations and financial pressures are huge,” Puckett said. “I think that marriage has the tendency to release some of the stress because you’re committed. Where it can cause pressure is taking two separate lives and making it become one thing.”

Rather than starting their financial lives independently, both couples hope to join their lives together at the very beginning.

“I want to build my life with her,” Sigler said. “I don’t want to tell her to wait while I build my empire then invite her in. We will build it together.”

For Jake Drew, a University senior computer-information-systems major, and wife Victoria McDowell-Drew, a University senior political-science major, marriage has been both challenging and a joy.

Mr. Drew said they met in April of 2008 and were engaged by April of 2009.

“I asked her to marry me on Easter Sunday during the Sunday dinner prayer,” he said. “I said, ‘God, please bless this food and help Victoria to say yes in a second when I ask her to marry me.’”

He said they were married in 2010, during their first year at the University together, and are currently working toward attending Southern Methodist University School of Law after graduation.

“We have never gotten to take a class together,” he said. “We are both very focused on our GPAs because of law school, so we spend a lot of time studying.”

The Drews remain very busy with work, school and their extra curricular activities: he with the Spirit Squad cheerleaders and she with the Patriot Singers.

“Finances are a primary concern each semester, and two full-time students make money hard to come by,” he said. “It is very important for relationships to remain ‘balanced,’ and two working, married, full-time students is equivalent to attempting to balance on a tightrope made of dental floss.”

He said although it’s a busy lifestyle, the help and support they receive from friends and family help out.

“It’s a crazy, challenging life, but anything worth having is worth working hard for,” he said. “I wouldn’t have it any other way.”



TALON » KAMREN THOMPSON

University students choose to get married while in school, causing them to balance academics, student life and the pressures of a marriage.

JAPAN

from page 1

ing tiles would fall on us at any moment.

I didn’t want to duck underneath any of the chairs, as I had noticed they were not attached to the floor and a section of them already had overturned.

I noticed some people wandered close to the windows, and I yelled at them to come to an open area with nothing but ceiling tiles above.

Once I had those people safely near me, I noticed the airport itself seemed to be moving as if on wheels. It seemed to be swaying back and forth a good 4 feet.

I honestly feared the earthquake was going to rip the building apart, and I was going to be buried alive.

The shaking continued for what seemed like a lifetime, and I could hear other people screaming, crying and praying.

The shaking finally ceased, and I began helping people to their feet and seeing if anyone was in need of aid.

We still had power, and the televisions were showing videos of the quake from around the

country and warning of impending tsunamis.

As my fellow passengers and I watched the newscast, the earth started to shake again, and all I could think was, “Could this get any worse?”

The aftershock was nothing compared to the initial quake, but people once again dove for cover.

The aftershock only lasted 30 seconds but was enough to cause one passenger to yell at an airport worker, demanding to know where the exits were so they could get out before the next quake happened.

The worker, speaking in broken English, told the man to stay calm, everything was OK and the worst was over.

I sat down with other passengers and watched the newscasts, which were starting to show the many videos from the tsunamis coming ashore.

As I was coming to terms with what had just occurred, an airport worker was coming down the terminal yelling, “We are now evacuating the airport. Please

proceed to the nearest exit.”

As we wound our way down a set of stairs, some of us began to wonder if we would get stuck in the staircase if another major aftershock hit.

As we reached the bottom, a passenger pointed out that the bottom of the stairs had cracked from the violent quake.

The airport workers put us out on the tarmac near a group of luggage movers and told us they did not know if the airport building was stable enough.

I set up shop in one of the movers but was unable to access the Internet and was content reading a book for one of my classes.

Because the temperature was in the lower 30s with wind gusts around 10 to 15 mph, the airport workers brought blankets for the children and elderly.

As I sat there reading, another significant aftershock shook the ground for about 10 seconds and moved the luggage movers slightly but not enough to cause concern.

It was now close to 6 p.m., and it was getting colder when

airport workers announced they were going to move us into the sunlight on the other side of the terminal.

We were only outside in the sun for about 15 minutes before officials moved us into the first floor of the terminal.

I found a chair and continued reading with occasional announcements reminding all of us to stay on the first floor and remain calm.

After 30 minutes of reading and waiting, I thought I heard my last named called. I looked up to see Commander Cheng from CNFK.

He informed me a group of CNFK members were camped out at the next gate, and I was “ordered” to join them and check in with Lieutenant Wang.

Once I was among my fellow unit members, I was finally able to relax fully and even joke about the fact they put us on the first floor of a possibly unstable building.

Airport employees continually informed us all flights were canceled with no idea of when flight services would resume.

They formed a chain gang on the stairs to bring down box after box of water, Pitz crackers and



TALON » PHOTO COURTESY OF STOCK.XCHG

Darrell Deitenbeck, University student and Navy Reserve member, was in Toyko, seen here, when a magnitude 9.0 earthquake hit off the coast of Japan on March 11.

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box of water, Ritz crackers and blankets. They even were able to get milk for the children and, eventually, meal packets, which consisted of fruit, a roll and a yogurt package.

As we all settled in for what we suspected to be a very long lay-over, the airport authorities announced two flights loaded with passengers and luggage, just as the quake hit were departing.

Cheers erupted up and down the terminal, and people began to hurriedly gather their belongings and head upstairs.

Of course, neither of those flights was for my unit members or me.

One of the flights was to Dulles International Airport in Washington D.C. One of the passengers near me joked there must have been a senator on the flight who pulled some strings to get the flight off the ground.

Another hour or so passed before airport officials decided the building was stable, and we were allowed to return to our respective gates.

I said my farewell to my unit members, who were not flying on my airline.

Once I was back at my gate, I heard the announcement my flight would possibly leave tomorrow with the tentative time of 1 p.m.

The plane that was supposed to fly us out was sitting at the gate but, apparently, did not have a crew to operate it.

I found a row of empty seats and lay down to get some sleep for the night.

The airport personnel had turned off the heat to avoid any danger, which caused the temperature in the terminal to fall into what felt like the low 40s.

I was awakened in the middle of the night due to another quick aftershock but was able to fall asleep again.

Once I woke up around 8 a.m., I proceeded to my airplane's ticketing counter to get a new ticket. The line was a good 50-people deep, and it took an hour and a half to get to the counter.

I noticed one of the employees at the counter also worked the night before, showing how loyal the Japanese were to their work and commitment to help us get home.

Once I informed the worker of my situation, I was issued a new set of tickets within minutes.

My new flight took off at 1 p.m., and I was finally on my way home to Tyler via Houston International Airport.

During my 11 1/2-hour flight, we experienced many moments of turbulence but made it home safely.

Once home, all I could think of was how grateful I am the Japanese are so gracious and accommodating.

I can only hope the Japanese people are able to fully recover from this horrendous natural disaster.

Having my fellow unit members with me was a great morale booster. Without them, it would have been a much more arduous experience.

Take 15 minutes to speak your mind.

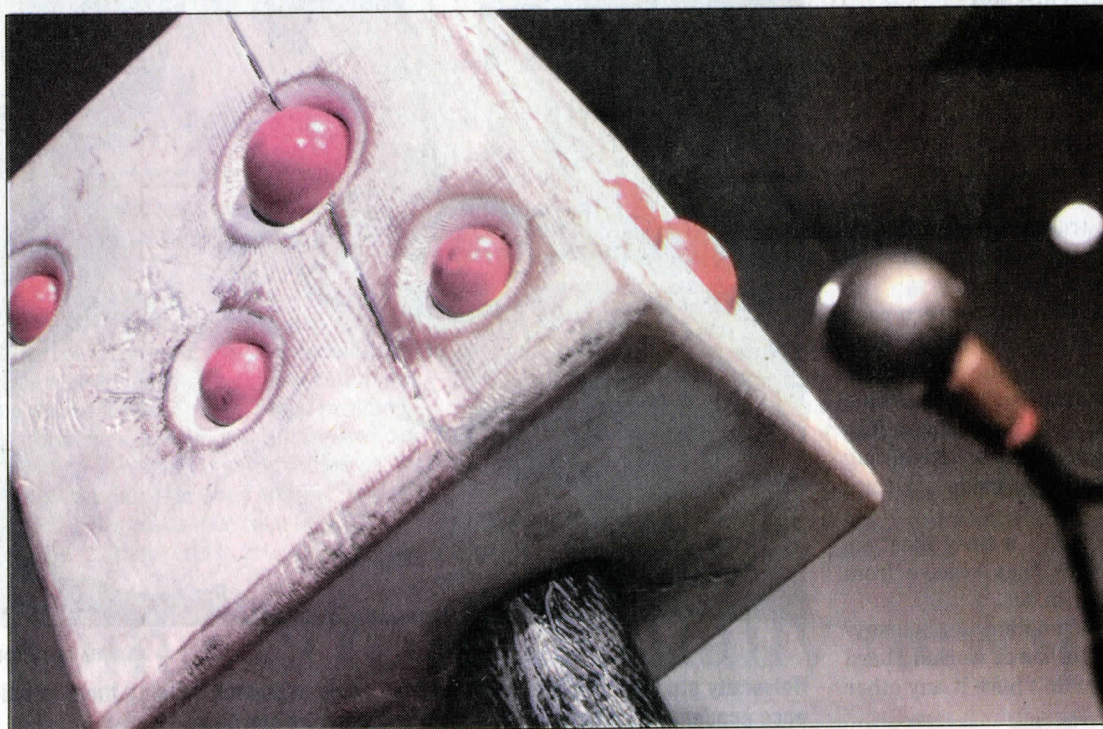
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Freshmen and Seniors - If you've been invited to participate in the NSSE Survey, this is your chance to be heard. Your opinions about UT Tyler will help improve our curriculum and campus life. Students who complete the survey will be entered to win one of four Barnes & Noble gift certificates, valued at \$50 each and available for use at any location. The drawing for the certificates will be held May 6.

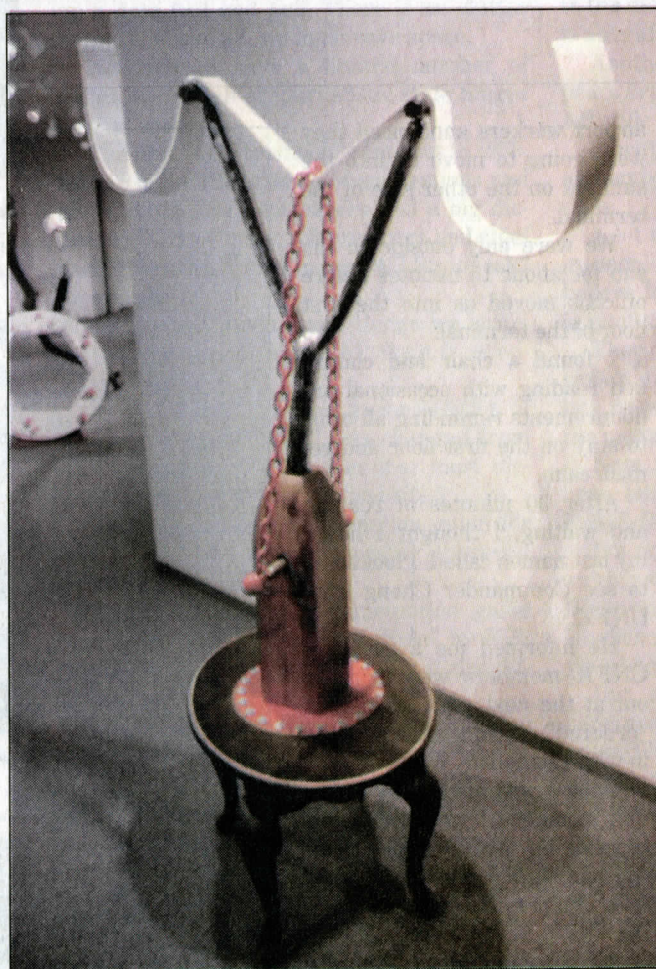
Visit www.nssesurvey.org/index.cfm?loginid={loginid}

'I got words'



Student shows work in Meadows Gallery

Graduate student Brandon Nepote's Master of Fine Arts thesis exhibition, titled 'I got words,' is currently on display in Meadows Gallery in the R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center. Students can see Nepote's art from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Meadows Gallery until April 1.



TALON >> PHOTOS BY KAMREN THOMPSON

Mr. Alpha Chi



Thursday, April 21 7:00 PM

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For more information or to purchase a ticket, contact any member of Alpha Chi Omega or email Jackie Reeves at

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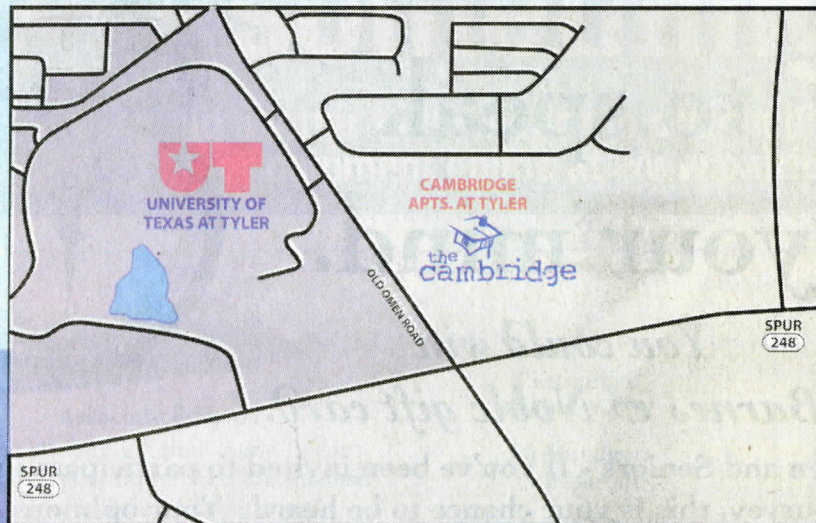
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